

convertible options to function as a printer and a reader, and an information processing apparatus to which print software and read software are installed, said system comprising:

a detection device, provided in said first apparatus, adapted to detect the option, selected or installed, on the first apparatus;

a signaling unit, provided in said first apparatus, adapted to automatically transmit to the information processing apparatus an option selection signal indicative of the detected option when the option is changed; and

launching means adapted to automatically launch either the print software or the read software installed in the information processing apparatus depending upon the option selection signal received from said signaling unit, and to allow displaying an image read by said reader when said detection device detects that said reader is selected or installed.

2. (Amended) The composite system according to claim 1, wherein, when said option selection signal indicates that the selected or installed option is the reader function, said launching means launches the read software.

5. (Amended) The composite system according to claim 1, wherein, when said option selection signal indicates that the selected or installed option is the printer function, said launching means launches the print software.

14. (Four Times Amended) An apparatus, having convertible options to function as a printer and a reader, which realizes a composite system in combination with an information

processing apparatus to which print software and read software are installed, said apparatus comprising:

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a detection device for detecting the option, selected or installed ; and

a signaling unit adapted to automatically output to the information processing apparatus an option selection signal indicative of which of said software should be launched when the detected option is changed and to allow displaying of an image read by said reader when said detection device detects that said reader is selected or installed.

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24. (Four Times Amended) An information processing apparatus to which print software and read software are installed, which realizes a composite system in combination with a first apparatus, having convertible options to function as a printer and a reader, said apparatus comprising:

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a receiving unit adapted to receive an option selection signal indicative of the detected option automatically sent from the first apparatus when the option is changed; and

launching means adapted to automatically launch either the print software or the read software installed in the information processing apparatus depending upon the received option selection signal, and for allowing displaying an image read by said reader when said reader is selected or installed.

25. (Amended) The composite system according to claim 24, wherein, when the option selection signal indicates that the reader function is selected or installed, said launching means launches the read software.

26. (Amended) The composite system according to claim 24, wherein, when the option selection signal indicates that the printer function is selected or installed, said launching means launches the print software.

27. (Four Times Amended) A function execution method used in a composite system including a first apparatus having convertible options to function as a printer and a reader, and an information processing apparatus to which print software and read software are installed, said method characterized by comprising:

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a detection step of detecting the option, selected or installed, on the first apparatus;

a signaling step automatically transmitting from the first apparatus to the information processing apparatus an option selection signal indicative of the detected option when the option is changed; and

a launching step of automatically launching either the print software or the read software installed in the information processing apparatus depending upon the option selection signal, and allowing displaying of an image read by said reader when it is detected in said detection step that said reader is selected or installed.

28. (Amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein, when the option selection signal indicates that the selected or installed option is the reader function, the read software is launched at said launching step.

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30. (Amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein, when the option selection signal indicates that the selected or installed option is the printer function, the print software is launched at said launching step.

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32. (Four Times Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for a function execution method used in a composite system including a first apparatus having convertible options to function as a printer and a reader, and an information processing apparatus to which print software and read software are installed, said product including:

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first computer readable program code means for detecting the option, selected or installed, on the first apparatus;

second computer readable program code means for automatically transmitting from the first apparatus to the information processing apparatus an option selection signal indicative of the detected option when the option is changed; and

third computer readable program code means for automatically launching either the print software or the read software installed in the information processing apparatus depending upon the option selection signal and allowing displaying of an image read by said reader when said reader is selected or installed.